

# Pianos Are the Nobility of Christmas Gifts



J. Fred Kessler, President  
W. T. Shanahan, Vice-Pres.

Not enough Sohmer pianos for all who must have one by Christmas. But some are available today. No Portland piano store has, we believe, enjoyed such a holiday business. Just one Sohmer-Cecilian is here today—for instant delivery. More promised; a few on the way—but the freights are uncertain. Three Farrand Cecilians here; two or three more are hoped for—not half enough. Do you know who said "Aim high and believe yourself capable of great things"? Think of a manufacturing firm, already making the best piano-player on the market—THE CECILIAN—deliberately spending fifty thousand dollars to equip itself for making the Cecilian so much better that the next best cannot soon overtake it. Just that thing was done. Nor was that all. Having at last the one piano-player with metallic construction, that prevented swelling, sticking and other needs for repairs, the

Farrand company (its builders) joined forces with the makers of the really great Sohmer piano to bring out the Sohmer-Cecilian—a piano, usual in all its parts and functions, and that is played as any other piano, yet which, by the mere putting in of a music roll, becomes self-playing.

We are proud to be the sole representatives in a large territory for these wonderfully perfect instruments.

Perforated music for self-players and piano-players has been needlessly dear. We have changed that, too, by cooperation with Connor—the maker of the best and most satisfactory rolls.

Rolls that otherwise sell at \$3 are \$1.50. Rolls usually under \$3 are \$1.

You can join the library for \$20 per year for which you receive 24 rolls a month or 12 every two weeks. Twenty-five hundred compositions to choose from. We are adding 50 new ones a month.

## MANUFACTURERS' PIANO CO. 350 Alder St.

### QUITE READY FOR HIGHWAYMEN

French Captains Practice Shooting and Show Themselves to Be Good Shots.

### ROBBERS GETTING BOLD AROUND SHIPS IN HARBOR

Captain of David d'Angers Thinks the Two Men Who Held Up Centennial Hotel Were on His Ship the Night of the Robbery.

Highwaymen are getting so bold around the ships in port that the French captains have taken to target practice. Three of the ekkippers spent the greater part of yesterday afternoon shooting at a mark with revolvers, and for the most part their aim was good. After lowering his smoking gun when he had taken his last shot, one of the mariners remarked:

### Now bring on your highwaymen.

Captain J. Le Glishen, master of the David d'Angers, one of the marksmen, says he believes that the men who held up the Centennial hotel were on his ship the night of the robbery. Two strangers went aboard late at night. They declined to answer questions asked by the mate. After they returned to the deck they pelted the door of the ship's cabin with stones and disappeared in the darkness before the sailors could overtake them.

### SMALL TAX THIS YEAR.

Port of Portland Commission Levies Eight-Tenths Mill Tax for Expenses. Eight-tenths of a mill tax levy has been fixed by the Port of Portland commission to meet the current expenses of continuing river and harbor improvements next year. Last year the tax was 7 mills. The valuation of the taxable property in the confines of the harbor this year is placed at approximately \$125,000,000, while 12 months ago it amounted to only about \$54,000,000. The finances of the Port of Portland are in good shape as compared with the period when the first high levy was made. In the neighborhood of \$40,000 is in the treasury, while a year ago it was practically empty. The main reason

**Cured Paralysis.**  
W. F. Baily, P. O. True, Texas, writes: "My wife had been suffering five years with paralysis in her arm, when I was persuaded to use Ballard's Snow Liniment, which cured her all right. I have also used it for old sores, frostbites and skin eruptions. It does the work." Woodward, Clarke & Co.

### for this excellent showing is that when the dredges were not employed in the interest of the port they were kept at work for private corporations at good profits. Enough money was realized in this way to make needed improvements to the vessels and to help materially to pay the current expenses. The drydock has also been a source of some revenue this year for the first time since it was built.

### MANY FRENCH VESSELS.

Twenty-four French vessels with an aggregate carrying capacity of 72,000 tons have been here or are on the way this season. Only 14 flying the colors of France visited the port last year. This is by far the greatest number of French vessels ever sent to the Columbia river. The following eight are now in the harbor: Europe, Alice Marie, Edmond Rostand, Bretagne, Emma Laurans, David d'Angers, La Roch-Jaquelin and Hoche. Those which have been here and sailed with grain cargoes are the Vauhat, Touraine, Brizeau and L'Hermite. The Cambrouse and Michelet have reached Astoria on the way here, while the fleet headed in this direction is made up of the Cornil Bart, Cellion, General Neumayer, Jean Baptiste, Jules Gomme, McMahon, Grande Duchesse Olga, Ville de Mulhouse, Duchesse de Berry, Pierre Lecl. Mix and Jacques. The Asté, which was chartered some time ago to load at Portland, was sighted yesterday, but word was received later that she had borne northward, and it is now believed that she is going to the sound.

### ALONG THE WATERFRONT.

Beginning tomorrow, the river readings taken at Eugene will appear on the weather map for the first time. "Edgar Briggs has been recommended for the position of observer at that point in place of Herbert C. Eastland, who resigned. The work of building a floating drydock will be started at Rainier tomorrow by a Portland concern which recently was incorporated. When completed the dock will be brought to Portland and will be used for handling all the smaller craft in the harbor needing repairs. It will be 35 feet wide by 96 feet long. From time to time other pontoons will be added. Late last night the steamer Alliance arrived from Eureka and way ports with a full cargo of general freight. Tonight the steamer Senator is scheduled to sail for San Francisco. With 55,962 barrels of flour valued at \$212,569, the British steamship Croydon cleared yesterday afternoon for Moll, Japan. The steamer South Bay sailed for San Diego yesterday afternoon with 475,000 feet of lumber, and the Daisy Mitchell for San Francisco with 600,000 feet.

R. P. Schwerin, vice-president and general manager of the Harriman steamship line, will arrive in the city tomorrow from San Francisco. With the view to throwing all of the traffic to the regular liners, and thus preventing the exporters from bringing tramp steamers here, the several navigating companies of the Pacific coast

### have decided to maintain the \$4 rate for carrying grain and flour to Japan, instead of advancing it to \$4.50, as had been planned.

Sailors on the French bark Bretagne went in a body to the office of Consul Labbe yesterday afternoon to demand that they be discharged from the vessel. The consul was not in, and they will appear before him tomorrow on a similar mission. They say that they are dissatisfied with life on the ship and want to be paid off.

### MARINE NOTES.

Astoria, Dec. 16.—Condition of the bar at 5 p. m., obscured; wind southeast; weather rainy. Arrived at midnight, British steamer Blackheath. Arrived down at 7 a. m., steamer Cascade. Arrived down at 8:30 a. m., British ships Dunboyne and Kynance. Arrived at 10:20 a. m., British bark Vaudours, from Antofogasta. Arrived at 10:40 a. m. and left up at 1 p. m., steamer Alliance, from Coos Bay and Eureka. Left up at 11:30 a. m., United States revenue cutter Perry. Left up at 11:40 a. m., barkentine Aurora and schooner Admiral. Left up at 11:40 a. m., British bark Miltonburn; anchored at Brookfield. French bark Asté, from Hobart, reported outside at noon, proceeded northward. Arrived down at 4:30 p. m., steamer Jeanie. Left up at 4:30 p. m., British ship St. Mungo.

San Francisco, Dec. 16.—Steamer Whittier sailed for Portland this evening.

### Predicts Big Future.

Thomas McCusker of the Geisser-Hendryx investment company gives it as his opinion that the next two years will show the greatest development of Portland and the state at large that has ever taken place. "We are having inquiries from all parts of the east regarding opportunities in Oregon," said he, "and we are making arrangements to bring out many thousands of homeseekers, as well as to place investments in Portland and other cities of the state. "Our Homebuilders' club will be the special feature of our local work, and it is becoming quite popular already, as we have numerous applicants to join same. Our intention is to build and furnish when necessary some very desirable houses on such terms as will obviate the necessity of any one paying rent, as they can own their home cheaper, and in addition we have a scheme whereby some one in the club can get a house free of cost. "We are going to cater to the great army of wage earners who receive less than \$1,000 per year, and we will furnish them a lot and build a house that will be the equal of one that would cost 25 per cent more should they build it themselves. This we can demonstrate to the satisfaction of any one. By the first of February we hope to have at least 20 houses under construction."

**Holiday Goods.**  
Have your picture framing done now and avoid the rush. E. H. Moorehouse & Company, 312 Alder street.

That is right: the farmers and ship-owners should get together and act in concert for their mutual benefit.

### LITTLE PROPERTY TO BEQUEATH

Though Search is Not Ended, It is Believed Senator Mitchell Left No Will.

### TWO THOUSAND DOLLAR EQUITY ALL HE OWNED

Investigation of Affairs by John H. Mitchell, Jr., Shows That Senator Attended a Great Mass of Work, Much of It Self-Imposed.

Although not all of the papers of the late United States Senator John H. Mitchell have been examined in the search for it, it is believed that no will was left by him, and that there is no property of consequence which could have been bequeathed to his family. So far as known, the \$2,000 equity in some lots on Holladay avenue—a \$3,500 in-

vestment—was the only property he owned at the time of his death.

John H. Mitchell, Jr., who has spent several days going through his father's papers and records in his office in the Columbia building, said yesterday: "From boyhood I have not been acquainted with the business and political affairs of my father. When I was a small boy, with the hearty consent and advice of my father, I took a solemn, binding oath that I would never dabble in politics. When I came here to look into father's affairs, I was ignorant of his records, but I have been much instructed as to the immense amount of work entailed on a United States senator. Judging from what my father was expected to do, I do not envy a senator, for how one man could attend to such an infinitude of details is more than I can understand. The wonder is the greater when one considers that father used methods common 30 years ago, yet kept everything in regular order and apparently never forgot anything that pertained to the business of others entrusted to him. "Many years ago my father bought the old home farm in Pennsylvania, paying his father several times what it was worth, thus enabling his parents to move into town near by and live comfortably for the rest of their lives. I believe that his father never did anything with the place, not even employing a caretaker, and presume that long ago it passed into the hands of others. "My father had an extensive law library, filling shelves that line three rooms. Such property, however, is not regarded as a valuable asset. One part of his library consists of congressional reports, reports of departments and commissions of congress, messages and documents gathered during an experience of 43 years in politics. These books and reports, of course, would not bring anything if offered for sale, although they might be of use to some public library."

In going through the office records and files of Senator Mitchell the discovery was made that the correspondence carried on by him with constituents was enormous.

**Santa at Eastern Outfitting Co.**  
Santa Claus arrived on schedule time Friday afternoon, at the Eastern Outfitting company's store and was greeted by some 2,000 children. The rush of little ones was more than was anticipated and proves conclusively that advertisements are read by the people. It was originally intended that Santa Claus should have a chance for a little confidential chat with each caller but the line of children awaiting his recognition made it impossible to do more than greet the little ones and his loads of gifts were rapidly diminished, necessitating hurried messages to his co-workers, the Eastern Outfitting company, in order to replenish the stock of dolls and toys so eagerly received by the children. Although the demands upon Santa Claus' stores were so unprecedented and the crowds and crowds of children who attended the reception so unexpected, yet the company already makes its announcement of the visit of Santa Claus for next year, at which time he will be prepared to meet demands of no matter what magnitude. The invitation has already been issued to the little ones to visit Santa Claus next year at the new store which will be one of the largest and handsomest in the city and the management has already planned in just what part of the store Santa Claus shall greet his numerous proteges.

**Men's Holiday Slippers at Special Prices Until Xmas**

SOLE AGENTS FOR

## STANDARD SHOES

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**TILT-KINNEY, Bench-Made, \$4.00**

**Goodyear Shoe Repair Factory**  
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Y. M. C. A. Building

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